Lawyers-1926

D.C.

Cobb Is Tenth Colored Judge To Sit On Bench

(From The Crisis)

The appointment of James A. Cobb as Judge of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia and his confirmation by the Senate is another step in the long and honorable career of American Negroes upon the bench.

During Reconstruction times a colored man named Deane was elected county judge of Monroe County, Florida, the county in which Key West is situated.

James Deane was a good-natured fellow but not strong by any means. There was a great furor at Key West when he was elected judge and he was removed from office because he issued a license to and married a man and woman one of whom it was claimed was white. They probably stretched the law in this case in order to get an excuse to remove Deane. Under the Florida law it was a crime to issue a marriage license to a white and colored person or to perform a ceremony.

Joseph E. Lee of Jacksonville, Florida, was elected in 1880 municipal judge of the City Court of record. He held this office about two years. He was a colored 'carpet bagger' coming to Jacksonville from Philadelphia as a young man and was one of the first colored men admitted to the bar in Florida. He became one of the most successful politicians of the state. "I never saw his superior as a presiding officer in a deliberative body and he was one of the shrewdest, brightest, coolest and best-read men I ever knew." But Lee was ultra-conservative and was careful to give no offense to the white people. As a result he held the office of collector of customs and collector of internal. The white people considered him "safe." He lived like a hermit, out in the country, his home surrounded by a high board fence and his gate locked. He seldom attended any social functions.

J. J. Wright was one of the associate justices of the Supreme Court of South Carolina, 1873 to 1877, serving with two white justices. William Whipper and F. J. Moses, Jr., of this State were elected circuit judges in 1875 and the latter became probate judge in 1884. Mifflin W. Gibbs, of Arkansas, was elected to the office of city judge of Little Rock in 1873. D. Augustus Straker, born in Barbados, and a law partner of the well-known Robert P. Elliott, was elected circuit court commissioner in Detroit Michigan, in the eighties. Governor Ben Butler, of Massachusetts, appointed George L. Ruffin judge of the District Court of Charlestown, Massachusetst, in 1883. He served until his death three years later. James C. Matthews, of Albany, New York, was elected to the judicial position of Recorder in the City of Albany, New York, on the Democratc ticket in 189—. Mr. Raymond, of Altoona, Pa. was judge of the Aldermanic Court of the city for several years. In his office his brother-in-law, Albert B. George, studied law. In 1925 Mr. George was elected one of the municipal judges of the City of Chicago, receiving a large popular majority.

In 1902 Robert Heberton Terrell was appointed justice of the peace in the District of Columbia. He held this position until 1909, when the Municipal Court was created by an act of Congress and Judge Terrell was made one of the three judges. He was reappointed by Presidents Roosevelt and Taft and, after some hesitation by President Wilson. He died in office in 1925.

The Municipal Court of the District of Columbia was enlarged in membership and jurisdiction by an act of Congress in 1921. It is now composed of five judges of whom one is Presiding Judge. The salary is $5400 a year with $300 extra for the Presiding Judge. The Court has jurisdiction over civil matters, with exclusive landlord and tenant jurisdiction. Cases are carried from this Court to the Court of Appeals, the highest Court in this jurisdiction, directly by way of writ of error. Cases are triable before a judge, sitting as judge and jury, or before a judge with jury, where the amount involved is $20 and upward; jury trial is a matter of election for the parties litigant.

James A. Cobb who has recently been appointed to this court was born in Louisiana in 1876 and educated at Straight, Fisk and Howard. He was admitted to the bar in 1901 and from 1907 to 1915 served as Special Assistant to the Attroney General of the United States.

Woman Passes D. C. Bar

WASHINGTON (Special)—Miss Olive M. Cooper, of Howard University, is believed the first colored woman to successfully pass the D. C. bar examinations.

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Suburbanite told the ticket agent he wanted to return home on a late train. "That's all right," said the agent, "just take any of 'em."

Two Admitted To Washington Bar

Washington, D. C.—Among the lawyers admitted last Monday to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States were B. G. Clanton, of Chicago, Illinois, and Louis R. Mehlinger, of 2809 Eleventh street, northwest.

Mr. Clanton was admitted upon motion of James C. Matthews, Jr., secretary of the Howard University law school, and Mr. Mehlinger upon motion of Perry W. Howard, a special assistant to the Attorney General. Mr. Clanton is a former assistant state's attorney. Mr. Mehlinger is an associate attorney in the Department of Justice.

The Advocacy of the Negro Lawyer

By KELLY MILLER

The nomination of James A. Cobb for municipal judge of the district of Columbia has constituted the theme of political gossip durthe past three or four weeks. This replacement appointment is, so far, the most significant recognition which the race has received at the hands of the incumbent administration. The confirmation goes without saying. It is not thinkable that a Republican administration would fail the race in the identical position where a Democratic predecessor had twice appointed and confirmed a colored man. The fitness of Mr. Cobb as a worthy successor of Judge Terrell is universally recognized and extolled. There is one aspect of the case, however, which so far seems to have escaped public attention. Mr. Cobb's elevation to the bench deprives the race of its most promising civil rights advocate from a legal point of view. He has devoted a large part of his time and talent to the legal phase of the race problem without compensation or hope of reward other than the satisfaction of having done his duty. This is his absorbing passion. Mr. Cobb had understudied the ablest juris consults in the country in this feature of constitutional law. He prepared the brief upon which was argued our cause before the Supreme Court. As one of the attorneys for the N. A. A. C. P., he had a wonderful opportunity in this field of jurisprudence. I think, it can be said without disparagement to our worthy counsellers at law, that no one has shown such detached and devoted interest in the constitutional aspect of the race situation as he. Single handed he pushed the Washington segregation case thru the courts to the final determination of the highest judicial tribunal. We are all hanging breathless upon the outcome of this case as it now rests on the lap of the Supreme Court. But whatever the outcome may be, the race owes a deep debt to James A. Cobb for his courage and determination to exhaust ever possible legal expedient in defense of the rights of his race.

The Negro lawyer is often made the butt of jibes and ridicule. He receives neither the esteem nor the reward of colored men in other professions. There is only one Negro law school in the nation. It just so happens that Mr. Cobb is the vice dean of that institution. And yet the Negro lawyer has the largest function and meaning for his race. My old neighbor, Professor John M. Langston, used often to say that, if the Negro ever secured the full and fair interpretation of his rights under the law, it would be secured through the advocacy of the Negro lawyer. However kindly the white lawyer might be, however faithful he may be to the cause which he engages to espouse, with him it is the case, and not the *cause* that is uppermost. Prudence and good judgment may indeed require that we employ white counsel in most, may be all of the cases brought before the Supreme Court. But in no instance should the Negro lawyer be left wholly out of the equation. He should without exception figure in every aspect of legal contention. The necessity of this is obvious. No one can be as vitally interested in the cause of the Jew as the Jew himself.

Now that Mr. Cobb has been called to the bench, it will be impossible for him to function as advocate of the political and civil rights of the race before the courts of the land. Some one must take his place. No more important duty devolves upon the N. A. A. C. P. than the selection of a competent and worthy successor to Mr. Cobb in the legal department.

The Supreme Court is disposed to side-step the judicial interpretation of racial issues. Chief Justice Taney declared that the Negro had no rights that white man was bound to respect. The results of the Civil War brought to the Negro every guaranteed right accorded white men, barring none. This was guaranteed so far as the enactment of law could go. Justice Taney and his dictum were utterly repudiated. Not only was the Negro given political anl civil equality, but special statutes were enacted calculated to meet the special circumstances of his case. The Civil Rights Regulations were laws of this character. But shortly after the law was enacted, the enemies of race equality began the process of repudiation by judicial negative. The Civil Rights statutes were first declared unconstitutional for the states, but left effective for the territories and the District of Columbia where the federal authority exercised complete jurisdiction. A subsequent decision wiped out the application of this law, even for these federal jurisdiction. Then the several states began to enact restrictive legislation in defiance of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments. There has even been some feeble attempt to rescind the amendments themselves. The Negro has had to be constantly on the defensive. He has brought case after case before the Supreme Court testing the constitutionality of restrictive race legislation. Rarely has he gotten a positively effect

ive decision. The two notable exceptions were rendered during the issues of the World War, and bear every indication of having been influenced by the onsweeping current of that momentous struggle. Do they or do they not represent the normal attitude and disposition of the avevage white man? In the midst of the revolution the under man has greatly the advantage both of legislation and of judicial interpretation. The Declaratio n of Independence was a revolutionary document. So was the Emancipation Proclamation. The three Civil War amend m e n t s were floated on the flood of Civil War sentiment. While we rejoice in the two world war decisions which the Supreme Court rendered in our behalf, yet we must not let our jubilation blind us to the fact that the feeling of revolution fades gradually away in the milder periods of peace. No sooner had peace been declared than sundry subterfuges tend to negative their effectiveness and to reduce our hopes to naught. Eternal vigilance is the price the race must pay for the maintenance of its rights.

Lawyers-1926

Florida.

CLEVER WORK BY ATTORNEY STUNS STATE

Governor Is Baffled; Warrant Outlawed

Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 12.—The circuit court of Duval county Monday passed upon a writ of habeas corpus filed by Attorney S. D. McGill, brother of Attorney N. K. McGill of Chicago, in the case of Abe Washington, sentenced to death under a law since repealed, and declared the death warrant signed by Governor Martin void.

The court upheld the contention of Attorney McGill that since the state of Florida had abolished death by hanging the sentence of execution by hanging which had been passed upon Washington could not be legally carried out. The case, which will probably go to the supreme court for final adjudication, stands as one of the most complicated tangles of legal technicalities that has ever vexed a Florida court of law.

Raised Question

Attorney S. D. McGill of this city is the lawyer who raised the involved legal points upon which a lower court, a circuit court and the governor of the state have found themselves at odds. He seized upon an unusual technicality which presented itself after Abe Washington had been sentenced to death by hanging for murdering his wife three years ago. Before the death sentence could be executed the Florida legislature abolished hanging as a method of capital punishment and substituted the electric chair.

Fought Hard Battle

Attorney McGill immediately took the position that since death by hanging was no longer in accord with the laws of the state, Washington could not be hanged. He fought his case out on this ground and filed a writ of habeas corpus. Governor Martin in the meantime signed a death warrant for Washington, specifying that he should be put to death on the electric chair.

This death warrant came into the possession of the sheriff at the Tallahassee jail at the same time that the circuit court was hearing Attorney McGill's writ. The court concurred with the legal reasoning presented by Mr. McGill and so the governor's order for electrocution was declared void. What his fate will now be is a question which in all probability will be decided by the supreme court of the state and the supreme court of the United States.

Appointed by Court

The defendant has been represented in all proceedings of the court since 1923 by Attorney McGill, who was appointed by the court. He is being assisted by Wm. Hallowes and Miles Lewis, white attorneys brought into the case by a local welfare league.

Cheap trickery by a white court reporter has kept Attorney McGill's name from appearing in the local daily press.

FLORIDA BAR LAUDS ATTY. S. D. M'GILL

Enters Brilliant Plea in Washington Case

Jacksonville, Fla., July 2.—The entire state of Florida is praising the brilliant display of legal ability shown by Attorney S. D. McGill, one of the most prominent members of the Jacksonville bar, in his argument of the now nationally known Abe Washington murder case before the state supreme court last week.

In what is being applauded on all sides as one of the most masterly presentations of an involved, technical case that has ever been made before Florida's highest court, Attorney McGill drew forth the outspoken commendation of learned barristers of both races.

The best known legal minds in the state hastened, after the case had been taken under advisement by the court, to congratulate the Jacksonville lawyer upon his masterpiece of argument. The Jacksonville Times-Union, known throughout the South as one of the leading white dailies of the section, spoke in highest terms of his work.

While the case is still under advisement with the supreme court, members of long standing in the local bar are unanimous in agreeing that not even an adverse finding can overshadow the effect of Attorney McGill's impressive plea in behalf of his condemned client. His presentation, said the Times-Union, was "forceful and vigorous. Attorney McGill made a very able argument displaying much learning and skill."

Gives High Praise

Praising further his conduct of the case, the Times-Union pointed out that Attorney McGill's overpowering massing of the points of law favoring his client forced the attorney general to extend himself to the limit, only to lose out in the popular opinion of the relative merits of the opposing sides. "The attorney general considered the case of such importance," declared the Times-Union, "that he went into it in much more detail than is usual in answering Attorney McGill's argument." But upon no single point, in the estimation of Florida's biggest legal figures, was he able to overcome the legal defense erected by Mr. McGill to protect his client and save his life.

Tangled Situation

Abe Washington was condemned by a Florida court to be hanged for the murder of his wife. Sentence was passed in February, 1923, but in June, before the sentence was executed, the state legislature passed a law abolishing hanging as a penalty for murder and substituting the electric chair. The law was not to take effect, however, until Jan. 1, 1924, and there seemed no relation between the action of the legislature and the fate of Abe Washington.

Attorney McGill, however, was quick to see significant possibilities in the situation presented by the new law. Carefully he studied the situation and carefully he studied the Florida law. Then, sure of his position, he appealed Washington's case, knowing well that no appeal could be thrashed out and heard before Jan. 1, 1924. The appeal court handed down an adverse decision, sustaining Washington's condemnation to death by hanging, but, as Mr. McGill had foreseen, the decision was not handed down until after Jan. 1, 1924. Immediately Mr. McGill pointed out that the hanging sentence could not be executed, since hanging was now illegal in Florida. He filed habeas corpus proceedings, won out and now his case rests with the supreme court.

Lawyers - 1926

General.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
MARCH 14, 1926

11,246 PRACTICE LAW IN NEW YORK CITY

5,027 Are Native Whites, 4,290 of Foreign or Mixed Parents —1,875 Born Abroad.

58,143 IN OTHER BIG CITIES

Statistics Show That Chicago Has 4,553 Lawyers, Boston 1,358 and Philadelphia 1,859.

Statistics made available yesterday concerning the number of lawyers practicing in cities of 100,000 inhabitants or more in the United States, show that the total at the time the figures were gathered was 58,143, of whom 32,146 were white persons of native parentage, and 18,817 of foreign or mixed parentage. The number of foreign-born white lawyers is 6,167, and there are 539 negroes and 24 classed among the yellow races. The report shows that 33,966 are from 35 to 44 years of age, 18,797 are from 45 to 64 and 3,161 are above that age. The number between 20 and 24 years of age is 2,219.

New York City has 11,246 lawyers, of whom 5,027 are native whites, 4,290 are of foreign or mixed parentage, and 1,875 are foreign-born whites, while 50 are negroes and 4 are classed among the yellow races. In this city the largest number according to age is 6,945, between 25 and 44 years, while 3,351 are from 45 to 64 years and 499 are above 65 years, while 451 are between 20 and 24 years of age.

Figures by Boroughs.

The boroughs of Greater New York are listed as follows: Bronx, total, 982; native parentage, 234; foreign paren'-age, 503; foreign-born white, 245. Brooklyn, total 3,455, consisting of 1,485 native white, 1,304 foreign parentage, 648 foreign-born and 18 negroes. Manhattan, total 5,936, with 2,888 white natives, 2,149 foreign parentage, 863 foreign-born whites, 32 negroes and 4 of the yellow races. Queens, total 693, consisting of 327 native parentage, 271 foreign parentage and 95 foreign-born. Richmond, 180, including 93 native parentage, 63 foreign parentage and 24 foreign-born white.

Chicago is credited with 4,553, of whom 2,036 are of native white parentage, 1,756 foreign parentage, 661 foreign-born whites, 95 negroes and 2 of the yellow race.

The number in other cities are: Boston, 1,358 total, with 620 native parentage, 515 foreign parentage, 207 foreign born and 16 negroes; Philadelphia, 1,859, of whom 1,156 are native parentage, 545 foreign parentage, and 145 foreign-born whites, while 13 are negroes; St. Louis, 1,259, of whom 781 are native-born whites, and 84 are foreign-born whites, 12 are negroes and the others are of foreign parentage.

1,393 in San Francisco.

The number in San Francisco is 1,393, consisting of 679 native white, 562 foreign-parentage whites, 146 foreign-born whites, 4 of the yellow race and two negroes.

The total number credited to other cities is: Albany, 327; Baltimore, 1,316; Atlanta, 439; Buffalo, 746; Cleveland, 977; Detroit, 1,212; Jersey City, 298; Kansas City, Mo., 1,020; Los Angeles, 1,640; Louisville, 403; Memphis, 354; Milwaukee, 587; Minneapolis, 837; Newark, 532; Omaha, 444; Pittsburgh, 700; Portland, Ore., 724; St. Paul, 537; Salt Lake City, 305; Seattle, 877; Syracuse, 377; Toledo, 332, and Providence, 304.

CHICAGO LEADS IN LAWYERS

The N. A. A. C. P. today forwarded statistics, published in the West Publishing Company's "Docket", showing that there are 539 colored lawyers in American cities having a population of 100,000 or more and that among these cities Chicago leads with 35 colored lawyers, New York is second with 50 colored attorneys. Detroit third with 32, Baltimore fourth with 27 and Indianapolis fifth with 26.

Other cities in the list include: Boston, 16; Columbus, Ohio, 14; Memphis and Philadelphia each, 13; Richmond, Va., and St. Louis, Mo., 12; Kansas City, Kan., 11; and Los Angeles and Louisville each 10.

CHICAGO LEADS CITIES IN NUMBER OF LAWYERS

There are 539 Negro lawyers in American cities having a population of 100,000 or more, and among these cities Chicago leads, with 35 colored lawyers. New York is second, with 50; Detroit third, with 32; Baltimore fourth, with 27, and Indianapolis fifth, with 26.

Other cities in the list include: Boston, 16; Columbus, O., 14; Memphis and Philadelphia, each 13; Richmond, Va., and St. Louis, Mo., 12; Kansas City, Kan., 11, and Los Angeles and Louisville each 10.

Amsterdam News
2-24-26
New York N.Y.

Lawyers - 1926.

Illinois.

NEW YORK CITY NEWS
JANUARY 29, 1926

Negro Woman Lawyer Member of Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 A. P.)—The first negro woman lawyer ever admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States to-day became a member of that bar.

She was Violette N. Anderson of Chicago. She was admitted upon a certificate which showed that she had practiced for more than three years before the highest court of Illinois.

NEW YORK CITY NEWS
JANUARY 29, 1926

COLORED WOMAN U. S. COURT LAWYER

Chicago, Jan. 29.—Mrs. Violette N. Anderson, colored woman lawyer, was admitted to practice today before the U. S. Supreme court. She is the first woman attorney of her color to be so honored. She was graduated from the Chicago law school five years ago and has been practicing in the local courts since.

First Negress Practices In U. S. Supreme Court

NEW YORK CITY NEWS
FEBRUARY 4, 1926

Mrs. Violette N. Anderson, negro woman lawyer, has just been admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court and is the first woman attorney of her color to be so honored. She was admitted on a certificate which showed that she had practiced for more than three years before the highest court of Illinois. She is a graduate of the Chicago Law School and the wife of a druggist.

First Colored Woman Admitted To Practice In U. S. Supreme Court

—Post-Dispatch

MRS. VIOLETTE N. ANDERSON

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 3—One of the distiinctions that few women have ever attained was realized by Mrs. Violette N. Anderson, lawyer with offices at 112 N. LaSalle St., Friday, when she was notifled of her success in her efforts to be admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. She is the first woman of her race to be granted such a privilege.

Mrs. Anderson was graduated from the Chicago Law School five years ago, and three years ago was admitted to practice in the Illinois Supreme Court. Mrs. Anderson has enjoyed a highly successful practice during the five years since she was awarded her diploma.

Mrs. Anderson is the wife of a prominent Chicago druggist. She resides at 4133 Indiana Ave.

A Graduate Of Marshall Law School

Mrs. Alice F. A. Huggins, 3451 Michigan Boulevard, who will be graduated from the John Marshall Law School Thursday with a degree of L. L. B. Mrs. Huggins, a graduate of McKinley High School and Chicago Normal, now teaching in the Chicago Public Schools, graduated with honors in a class of fifty-seven.

GRANTED DEGREE AT LAW COLLEGE

Mrs. Barbara Goodall Is Honored at Chicago College Exercises

Mrs. Barbara Goodall, 4536 South parkway, received her degree of bachelor of law from the Chicago College of Law on Tuesday night at its 30th annual commencement exercises at the Oriental Consistory. Hundreds of white students received their sheepskins along with the one female of our Race. Her early college training was begun at Waco, Texas, and Paul Quinn college was where she graduated in her early teens.

Mrs. Goodall

She was a joyal, happy girl, but back of this was a desire some day to take up a professoinal career. It remained for her to come to this city before she took definite cognizance of life. Laying aside social pleasures of the Windy city, she decided the best of service to the community and, if used intelligently, it meant more education. She entered the Illinois high school and finished with honors.

The knowledge of law was her aim and she matriculated in the Chicago College of Law and Tuesday night was the culmination of her aim. It was the happiest moment of her life when a diploma was handed her. Although a graduate from a law school, she is still a student of the Northwestern university and it will not be long before she will have another degree.

The past three years Mrs. Goodall has for the most part given all her time to study. Social affairs were given up for hours at the Chicago and law libraries. Today she is well equipped for her new task, which, she says, she will enjoy and make a success. She is a splendid example of what is in store for those who persevere and are determined to "make good." Mrs. Goodall is the wife of Ulysses Goodall, a federal employee and member of the Appomattox club. A trip has been planned for her to Los Angeles, Calif.

Lawyers-1926

Louisiana.

LOCAL COLORED MAN ADMITTED TO FEDERAL BAR

Product of N. O. Public Schools and Howard University

Mr. Alexander P. Tureaud, attorney at law, of New Orleans, was recently admitted to the Bar of the U. S. District Court, Eastern Distric of Louisiana. Mr. Tureaud is a product of the New Orleans Public Schools and the Law School of Howard University, Washington, D. C., and has recently been employed in the office of Comptroller of Port, Walter L. Cohen. With the addition of Mr. Tureaud, our group now practicing before the bar in New Orleans numbers four. The Voice sponsors the kindly regards of the general citizenry here, who wish for Mr. Tureaud a bright future and a brilliant, useful career.

National Negro Digest
Vol 20 #6
New Orleans

Lawyers - 1926

Maryland.

BOND AGAIN HEADS BAR ASSOCIATION

Popular Attorney Re-elected President In Hotly Contested Election

HOLD LOVE FEST AT NIGHT CLUB

Attorneys McCard, Hawkins And McMechen Are Hosts At Club Arabia

In one of the most heated contests in the history of the Roy S. Bond was re-elected to the presidency of that organization at the monthly meeting held at the Banneker Building Friday night.

The other officers elected were Lewis S. Flagg, Jr. vice president for a second term, Arthur Briscoe, secretary, and William C. McCard, treasurer.

Attorneys Ephraim Jackson, W. C. McCard and U. Grant Tyler were appointed by President Bond as members of the finance and members of the executive committee. The report of the president and officers was received and adopted. During the ensuing year the organization expects to entertain such speakers as Judge Albert George of Chicago and Assistant Attorney General Perry W. Howard.

Following the business meeting, a reception was tendered to the president at the Club Arabia. Messrs. McCard, Hawkins, and McMechen were hosts. Those present were Lawyers Daniel Baynum, Arthur Briscoe, G. I. Brown, Norman Bishop, R. S. Bond, Emory R. Cole, J. Stewart Davis G. W. Evans, C. C. Fitzgerlad, W. L. Fitzgerald, L. F. Flagg, Jr., C. S. Frazier, J. M. Hampton, W. A. Hawkins, J. F. Henry, Ephraim Jackson, Thomas Knox, L. G. Koger, W. C. McCard, G. W. F. McMechen, J. H. Payne, G. L. Pendleton and William E. Thomas.

Chicago American 3-13-26 Baltimore Md.

Lawyers - 1926

Massachusetts.

Two Win Honors From Portia School of Law

Boston, Mass., June 11.—At the 15th annual commencement of the Portia Law School honors were bestowed upon two students of our Race who received their degrees "cum laude."

They were Miss [illegible] Conover and Miss Bernice M. Grandison. Miss Conover is also a graduate of Simmons college, and Miss Grandison is a public school teacher.

This year's class numbered twenty graduates, the largest since the beginning of the school.

Chicago Defender 6-12-26 Chicago Illinois

Lawyers - 1926

Michigan.

Negro Woman Passes Michigan Bar

Washington, Oct. 11th—Mrs. Isadore Augusta Letcher, who received her bachelor of laws degree from Howard University College of Law with the class of 1925, has just been notified that she successfully passed the rigid examinations of the Board of Law Examiners of the State of Michigan, and is shaping her plans to enter upon the practice of her profession in Detroit. Mrs. Letcher, who is the widow of the late Eugene Letcher, popular employee for many years of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, pursued her law course at Howard following her daily duties in the Engraving and Printing Section of the U. S. Treasury Department, of which she has been an expert employee for many years. She is adding distinction to the long list of Howard law women and men who are yearly passing state boards and entering upon the stern duty of interpreting the law to their fellow men and women.

Missouri.

Lawyers — 1926

Promoted Assist. Circuit Attorney

GEORGE B. JONES
Assistant Circuit Attorney

George B. Jones, attorney with offices at No. 6 South 14th St., who has had a colorful career was favored with an unusual honor Monday when he was appointed assistant circuit attorney by Circuit Attorney Howard Sidener.

A Self Made Man

Left an orphan at five years of age, George B. Jones battled thru adversities of life to brilliant success. Even in his early youth his desire for high attainments began to assert itself. Though he was not able to attend daily school, he sought to secure an education in night school and later, through the advice of friends, took up the study of law through a correspondence school. He was finally successful in passing the Missouri state Board law examination in 1920. Due to his experience and acquaintances formed through his employment in the offices of public officials whose attention was attracted to his aggressiveness, Mr. Jones found himself in a very advantageous position.

Won Favor

From a janitor in the city hall Mr. Jones climbed to the office of deputy sheriff in the Dayton Street police station. Later he was transferred to Police Court where he became an assistant clerk. In 1923 he was appointed a clerk in Sidener's office. A short time thereafter he was made a deputy. Because of his efficiency in filling his office, when Rudolph Schneider announced his resignation to run for Judge, Mr. Jones was appointed to fill his office, as assistant circuit attorney. The new assistant circuit attorney will receive a salary of $3600 a year.

100 MISSOURI LAWYERS FORM STATE SOCIETY

Harlan Bar Association Elects Officers

St. Louis, Mo., May 28.—Nearly one hundred lawyers who reside in different sections of Missouri gathered here last Friday and organized a state association. The sessions were held at the Grand Central hotel. L. Amasa Knox of Kansas City was elected president.

The organization will be known as the Harlan State Bar association of Missouri in honor of the late Justice John Marshall Harlan, who became famous on the bench because of his impartial decisions and persistent efforts to gain equal rights for members of the Race.

Freeman L. Martin, candidate for office of justice of the peace in the Fourth district, was chosen as first vice president of the bar association; Duane B. Mason, Kansas City, second vice president; Frank S. Bledsoe, St. Louis, secretary; Carl R. Robinson, Kansas City, assistant secretary; S. E. Garner, St. Louis, treasurer; N. B. Young, Jr., St. Louis, historian; Emanuel Williams, St. Louis, chaplain; J. D. Pouncey, Kansas City, sergeant-at-arms.

Lengthy and enthusiastic discussions marked the adoption of the association's constitution and by-laws.

The next annual session of the association will be held in Kansas City, Mo.

ST. LOUIS, MO. POST DISP
MARCH 30, 1926

Negro, Former Courthouse Janitor, Gets $3600 Job

George B. Jones, Self-Educated Attorney, Appointed Assistant to Circuit Attorney Sidener.

A self-educated Negro, who was a janitor at the Broadway Courthouse some 25 years ago, tomorrow will become an assistant to Circuit Attornel Sidener at a salary of $3600 a year, the highest public position which a Negro attorney has attained in St. Louis.

He is George B. Jones, claimed as a protege by many St. Louis attorneys who helped him in his long struggle to gain an education and admission to the bar. He studied at night and learned law by means of a correspondence course, because the evening schools would not admit him as a student.

He has been a Deputy Circuit Attorney under Sidener since 1923 and has gained the friendship and regard of the many attorneys and others who have had reason to consult him in his capacity as deputy in charge of research work. An affable personality and a willingness to oblige have been factors in his success.

Circuit Attorney Sidener, in announcing Jones' promotion, stated it was entirely an "appointment of merit." Jones will replace Rudolph Schneider, who has resigned to enter the race for Judge of Court of Criminal Correction No. 1.

Jones was born in St. Louis and was left an orphan at the age of 5 years when he was taken in by a kindly neighbor, a widow, who sent him to public school as long as she could afford to buy clothes for him. At 13 he went to work, first as a newsboy and then as a bootblack, finally at 17 becoming houseman for the late Roger P. Annan, commission merchant and former president of the Merchants' Exchange, who became the ambitious young Negro's first benefactor.

It was an accident that caused Annan to realize his employe's studious bent. Annan smelled smoke one night and rushed to Jones' quarters, where his table was in flames. The Negro youth had fallen asleep over a book with a candle burning and the candle had overturned.

Instead of dismissing Jones, Annan arranged that two hours of daylight be set aside each day and Jones pursued his studies under the tutelage of Mrs. Annan.

Jones remained with the Annans for several years as houseman, coachman and butler. Then, as a young man, he went to the courthouse as janitor, where prominent lawyers and Judges soon noted his earnestness, courtesy and obvious ambition to get on in the world. It was a Circuit Judge who arranged for his appointment as Deputy Clerk in the old Dayton Street Police Court during the Kreismann administration.

It was at Dayton Street Court that Jones realized he might become a lawyer. He visited the evening schools and was about to abandon all hope, when a lawyer friend advised a correspondence course. He subscribed and for six years pursued the law course, supplemented by advice and counsel from friendly lawyers who visited the court. In 1920, Jones was admitted to the Missouri bar.

When Dayton Street Court was abandoned Jones was transferred as assistant clerk in Police Court in the Municipal Courts Building. Sidener and his first assistant, J. Joel Wilson, noted his work and in January, 1923, when Sidener needed a clerk, Jones got the job. A year later he was made a deputy, at $2400 a year.

As deputy, Jones has been in charge of all research work and has shown great adaptability in digging up old cases which were needed in the work of Sidener and his assistants. He also frequently represented Sidener in the St. Louis Court of Appeals, acting in habeas corpus suits, and appealed cases in which the Circuit Attorney was interested.

GEORGE B. JONES.

Lawyers—1926.

National Bar Association.

National Bar Ass'n Meets In Chicago, Aug. 5

Hopes To Stimulate The Progress Of 1000 Colored Lawyers In U. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 28.—The National Bar Association, headed by President George H. Woodson, veteran attorney of Des Moines, Iowa, is planning its second annual meeting, which will convene in Chicago, Ill., on Aug. 5, 1926.

The National Bar Association, organized a year ago by Attorney Woodson, who was Chairman of the U. S. Commission to the Virgin Islands, and other interested practitioners of the law, who saw the need for a stronger spirit of professional fraternalism and legal and ethical culture among the Negro lawyers of the country together with an increasing social atmosphere, is modelled along the lines of the American Bar Association.

The N. B. A. invites all attorneys to apply for membership, with the view of strengthening the standing and stimulating the progress of the more than 1,000 Negro lawyers in the United States, who are doing a great work in safeguarding and promoting the rights and welfare of their racial group.

torneys C. N. Galloway of Kansas City, Mo.,; William H. Haynes, Jesse N. Baker, Wendell E. Green of Chicago, met with the program committee of the Cook County Bar Association for the purpose of making final preparations for the annual convention of lawyers to be held in Chicago on the 5th and 6th days of August.

As a part of the program of the National Bar Association there will be a gigantic mass meeting held in Chicago, at which prominent and nationally known lawyers will speak. The list of the speakers for that occasion are Judge Albert B. George of Chicago, Judge James A. Cobb of the District of Columbia, Hon. Edward H. Wright, member of the Commerce Commission of the state of Illinois, Attorney T. Emmett Stewart, Muskogee, Oklahoma, and Hon. William C. Matthews, special assistant attorney general of United States, of Boston, Mass.

The National Bar Association was organized and incorporated in the state of Iowa at Des Moines in August, 1925, through the untiring efforts of Hon. George H. Woodson, who is now president of the association. Mr. Woodson is nationally known for his constructive work for legislative uplift of the race in the state of Iowa, and for his fearless work as a representative of the United States government recently with respect to the Virgin Islands.

The greatest aggregation in the history of the country of race lawyers is expected at the annual convention, inspired to a great extent by the increasing sentiment in this country in the last few years toward political and legislative measures that are detrimental to the race throughout the country.

The officers of the National Bar Association are: president, George H. Woodson, Des Moines, Iowa; vice-president, C. H. Calloway, Kansas City, Mo.; secretary, Wendell E. Green, Chicago, Ill.; assistant secretary, Charles P. Howard, Des Moines, Iowa; treasurer, Jesse N. Baker, Chicago, Ill. Regional directors: No. 1, Gustave B. Aldrick, Tacoma, Wash.; No. 2, David B. Henderson, Kansas City, Kas.; No. 3, W. T. Francis, St. Paul, Minn.; No. 4, L. Amasa Knox, Kansas City, Mo.; No. 5, William B. Haynes, Chicago, Ill; No. 6, C. W. Matthews, Boston, Mass.; No. 7, D. Hamilton Jackson Christianstead, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

The Cook County Bar Association of Chicago, with a membership of more than 100 lawyers will be the host to the National Bar Association.

NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION TO MEET AUGUST 5

Local Committee Completes Plan For Entertainment Of National Meet

The executive committee of the National Bar Association, consisting of At-

LAWYERS END ANNUAL MEET IN CHICAGO

Attorney Calloway to Head Body

The Chicago Bar association closed its second annual session Saturday at the National University of Music, 4427 South parkway, after holding the most successful session in the history of the organization.

C. H. Calloway

Prominent lawyers from different sections of the country gathered here to put over a big Racial program to unite themselves in one solid body to fight legally the cause of the Race against unjust discrimination, prejudice and segregation whenever these issues arise.

Such is the object of the association as explained on the opening day of the session by Attorney Carl F. Phillips of Washington, D. C. "The national bar association is a movement capable of meeting the best of other races anywhere," Mr. Phillips said. The rights of members of the Race can and will be better protected through its organized legal body than through any other agency. The battles are for justice, was the opinion of Mr. Phillips.

These points were emphasized at Thursday night's mass meeting held in the Wendell Phillips high school auditorium. It was crowded with Chicago citizens who turned out en masse to hear the legal champions of the Race discuss race prejudice, discrimination, residential segregation, the power of the ballot, the citizen and court and the relation of the lawyer to the community.

The executive session of the association was held Friday afternoon when officers for the ensuing year were elected. Attorney C. H. Calloway of Kansas City, Mo., who had held the office of vice president, was unanimously elected president, succeeding George H. Woodson, Des Moines, Iowa, founder of the national body, who has held the office since the organization of the association. C. W. Mathews of Boston, assistant attorney general of the United States, was elected vice president; Wendell E. Green, Chicago, secretary; S. Joe Brown, Des Moines, assistant secretary, and C. Francis Stradford, Chicago, treasurer. L. Amasa Knox Kansas City; Gustave B. Aldrich Tacoma, Wash., and William H Haynes, Chicago, were re-elected regional directors.

The next meeting of the association will probably be held in St Louis, Mo., next year. President Calloway is already laying plans for the next session, which is expected to be the greatest yet held by the organization. The membership now consists of about 300. This number is expected to be doubled by next year.

LAWYERS END CHICAGO MEET

C. H. Calloway Heads Nat'l Association. Next Session In Kansas City

CHICAGO, Aug. 11—With lawyers representing various sections of the country on hand the National Bar Association reached the high point in the three days of its second annual convention, last Friday night with a brilliant public mass meeting at Wendell Phillips High School here. The large audience thrilled as the legal luminaries of the nation presented such subjects as "The Citizen and Court, which was discussed by Judge Albert B. George, the Power of the Ballot by Commissioner Edward H. Wright, and Race Prejudices and Discriminations by Attorney Alva L. Bates, who suggested that the Bar Association take a test case of the Jim Crow law up to the United States Supreme Court.

Judge James A. Cobb, who was to have told of the evils of Residential Segregation, wired that "a jury case I am trying prevents' my leaving Washington, but I greet and command you." Wm. Clarence Matthews, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, journeyed all the way from San Francisco, where he is trying cases for the government and from which station he was granted special leave he said, "To bring a message of cheer and encouragement." Mr. Matthews lauded the organization for its breadth saying that unlike the American Bar Association it opens its door to all Americans of whatever creed or color.

Judge George, the first judge of record belonging to our group to be elected to office in America made a finely poised address.

The National Bar Association was organized last year at Des Moines Iowa, and has for its purposes according to Vice President C. H. Calloway, presiding in the absence of President George H. Woodson, who is gravely ill, "the advance of the science of jurisprudence, the upholding of the honor of the legal profession and the protection of the civil and political rights of all citizens of the several states of the United States. The need for a body such as this has been long apparent. We have no connection with the organization known as the National Bar Association, which was headed by Mr. Perry Howard. We are free from politics, meet every year, function every day in the year, and have the backing of the majority of legal practitioners in the country."

C. H. Calloway was elected president. The next annual meeting will be held in Kansas City, Missouri.

Lawyers - 1926

National Bar Association.

NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION TO MEET HERE

Noted Lawyers to Be Heard in August

Close on the heels of the N. A. A. C. P. meet Chicago will soon entertain another convention, that of the National Bar association, which will convene here Aug. 5.

The greatest aggregation of Race lawyers in the history of the country is expected at this annual convention, inspired by the increasing sentiment against political and legislative measures detrimental to the Race.

Defender

The Cook County Bar association of Chicago, with a membership of more than 100, headed by Attorney C. Francis Stradford, will be host to the national body. Already an executive committee, consisting of Attorneys C. H. Calloway of Kansas City, Mo.; William H. Haynes, Jesse N. Baker and Wendell E. Green of Chicago, has met with the program committee of the Cook county body, consisting of Attorneys William L. Offord, C. Francis Stradford, William L. Dawson and [illegible] N. Anderson, and completed plans to make the convention one of the most interesting and beneficial ever held in Chicago.

7/10/26

Chicago, Ill.

As a part of the program of the National Bar association mass meetings will be held at which nationally known lawyers will speak. Among them will be Judge James A. Cobb of Washington, D. C.; Attorney Robert T. Vann of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Attorney T. Emmett Stewart, Muskogee, Okla., and Attorney William C. Matthews of Boston, Mass., special assistant attorney general of the United States.

The National Bar association was organized and incorporated in Des Moines, Iowa, last August, through the efforts of George H. Woodson, now president. Mr. Woodson is known for his constructive legislative work in Iowa and as a recent representative of the United States government in the Virgin Islands affairs.

The regional directors of the association are Gustave B. Aldrick, Tacoma, Wash., district No. 1; David B. Henderson, Kansas City, Kan., district No. 2; W. T. Francis, St. Paul, Minn., district No. 3; L. Amasa Knox, Kansas City, Mo., district No. 4; William H. Haynes, Chicago, district No. 5; C. W. Matthews, Boston, Mass., district No. 6, and D. Hamilton Jackson, Christainstead St. Croix, Virgin Islands, district No. 7.

The officers of the national body are George H. Woodson, Des Moines, Iowa, president; C. H. Calloway, Kansas City, Mo., vice president; Wendell E. Green, Chicago, secretary; Charles P. Howard, Des Moines, assistant secretary and Jesse N. Baker, Chicago, treasurer.

Lawyers - 1926

New York.

Busines Magazine Pays Tribute To Rufus Perry

The American Business Record, a magazine published in New York and Washington, has printed, in its April number, a fine tribute to Counsellor Rufus L. Perry of Brooklyn, who has won a high place in the legal world. Under the headline: "Would-be Brooklyn Attorney Attacks Worn Buildings," the article said:

A fighter, a student and philanthropist—these are the rather contradictory appelations which can be applied to Rufus L. Perry, noted attorney of Brooklyn, New York, who has recently attacked the dilapidated buildings of his city which are allowed to stand as a constant menace and which, according to Mr. Perry, could be cracked with a light blow of the fist.

"This scathing denunciation of Mr. Perry's indicates his righteous belligerance when he knows that the cause for which he is contending is just. Throughout his twenty years legal practice his name has been identified with communal progress, and his name has always stood at the top of the list of any crusade against anything which tends towards retrogression. And in a like fashion Mr. Perry has battled for his clients, always intent upon justice and equity.

"Secondly, Mr. Perry has combined with his more practical accomplishments an unusual erudition. He is noted as a linguist of rare ability and has delved into the esoteric philosophies of the ancient Hebrews, of which language he is a master.

"In addition, Mr. Perry is a philanthropist. He is too shrewd a business man to give blindly to any cause bearing the name of charity, realizing that promiscuous giving will probably do more harm than good. But, with no ostentation, with no anticipation of praise, he has aided many people in dire straits and who truly needed the support of a man like Mr. Perry.

"Eminently successful in his chosen profession, Mr. Perry has no ironclad rule to lay down which will inevitably lead to prosperity. For he realizes only too well that true success is more than anything else a state of mind, to be attained only by fair dealing and conscientious service. The career of Mr. Perry in itself is the best precept of success."

Race Lawyer On Wall Street

NEW YORK.—Attorney Oliver D. Williams has announced the opening of offices at 61 Wall street.

Attorney Williams will engage in general practice. He is one of the few race men to invade this great financial centre.

Attorney J. C. Thomas Appointed Receiver For Big Jewish Firm

James C. Thomas, former assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, has been appointed receiver for the bankrupt estate of Max Rubenstein and Co., a manufacturing concern with headquarters in this city, and which operates dry-goods stores in Columbia, S. C., Paducah, Ky., Henderson, Ky., Corinth, Miss., and Fort Madison, Ia.

The appointment was made on July 16 by Judge Augustus N. Hand, presiding over the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. It was made without any solicitation on behalf of the receiver.

The bankrupt firm has assets totaling more than $52,000.

Lawyers—1926

North Carolina.

N. C. Has Only Deaf Mute Lawyer of Race in America

Blind at the age of 9, then stone deaf when his sight was restored, Roger Demonsthenes O'Kelly, the only deaf mute lawyer of his Race in the United States, has given to his native state of North Carolina an inspiring example of the all-conquering power of ambition and determination to succeed. Stricken with physical handicaps that would have driven many a lesser soul to despair, he has not only risen to success despite them, but has carved for himself a distinctive niche in the civic and professional life of Raleigh.

One of America's three deaf mute lawyers, he was licensed to practice law by the supreme court of North Carolina in 1908. He was the second deaf mute to become an alumnus of Yale university. For several years he has been correspondent of The Chicago Defender.

Through "O'Kelly's Legal Bureau" he renders service on questions of domestic relations, conducts real estate transactions, organizes corporations, prepares abstracts of title. His office is over the Mechanics and Farmers bank, near the intersection of Fayetteville and Hargett Sts. in Raleigh. Among his clients are the Eagle Insurance company, for which he is general counsel, and the Progressive Real Estate company, both domestic white corporations. He does a lucrative business among his own Race and has business connections with prominent white lawyers and men of affairs.

IS GRADUATE OF YALE UNIVERSITY

By strange coincidence, remarks Joseph Lacey Seawell, former clerk in the North Carolina supreme court, who interviewed Mr. O'Kelley for an interesting story of his accomplishments in the Gresnsboro, N. C., Daily News, last week, Mr. O'Kelley was born in the same year with another marvel of attainment, Helen Keller.

O'Kelley was born in 1880 in Raleigh, N. C., and Helen Keller in Tuscumbia, Ala. At birth both were richly endowed with all the senses and both were partially bereft of them by scarlet fever. O'Kelley received his early education in the North Carolina School for Deaf and Blind, worked several years as a stable hand and was graduated in English from Shaw university in Raleigh. After he was licensed by the supreme court of North Carolina he completed a three years law course at Shaw university in one year and graduated with a B. L. degree. He was admitted to the senior law class of Yale in 1910 and after two failures, the most disastrous of which was shared by 49 other students out of a class of 150, he passed a successful examination and received the degree of bachelor of laws from Yale in 1912.

O'Kelley's ancestors were highly intelligent. His grandfather, John O'Kelley, was for many years proprietor of a large livery establishment in Raleigh.

SAYS BLINDNESS IS WORSE THAN DEAFNESS

When asked, "Which would you prefer to be, deaf or blind?" he replied: "Every deaf mute (I say 'mute' because we deaf people are mute only as to language but are in no sense dumb)—every deaf mute prefers his affliction to blindness and every blind man prefers blindness to deafness. I have been both blind and deaf and as to which is worse, my opinion should preponderate. I emphatically prefer to be deaf rather than blind. When I was 9 years old I completely lost my sight from the effects of scarlet fever. Perhaps it is true that every one is more cowardly in the dark than in light and this is true as to children. I can distinctly remember the terror and horrible mental effect of supposing that I would never see again. It was during my convalescence and I was in bed. The room became suddenly white. Recalling it now, I am reminded of St. Paul's sudden visitation.

"In perhaps a year's time my sight began to return as it had disappeared, but I soon realized that I was losing my hearing in the same proportion that I was regaining my sight.

"I have not completely lost my speech, as you will observe, but it is a tedious process and I have practically abandoned it because I have forgotten how to pronounce some words and my active vacabulary of course has not increased. My almost sole dependence now, when not conversing with deaf mutes, is pencil and pad; they carried me through Shaw and Yale and they have carried me through many important business deals. One can write with much more care and deliberation than he can speak. Did you ever think of it? A pencil puts one on his guard. Spoken words are easily forgotten, written words stay and are remembered.

DEAF MUTES "FEEL SOUND"

"Am I sensible to sound? To answer that question at all fully would carry you into the realm of mystery—the deaf man's world. Yes, I am sensible to sound and I think that all deaf mutes can feel sound—yes, feel it, not hear it. The soult satisfying effect of sound comes only by feeling it. I can feel music—a brass band, a piano, my own words. I have been asked whether deafness does not beget power to concentrate. I think that it does. I have heard sound and now I only feel sound. Sound felt does not distract the attention as does sound heard, nor does sound felt annoy as acutely as sound heard. The deaf are the most attentive to the language of the soul: it is the only language they can hear. The soul of a deaf mute talks to him and although it soothes him in a language all its own the deaf mute knows that the language is universal—it is the universal language of the soul. When I attend church I take up the refrain and join in the singing; and when I know the subject of the sermon, my soul tells me the sermon."

Mr. O'Kelley has no faith at all in the numerous systems for teaching deaf mutes to speak. Bitterly he denounced as "fraud and quackery" the so-called "oral system of instruction."

"I challenge the world to produce 25 deaf mutes who have become real linguists as a result of any system or process ever conceived by man. I have a very wide acquaintance with deaf people and keep in touch with the doings and accomplishments of the deaf people throughout the United States, and I do not know personally or by hearsay of a single business or professional man who is a deaf mute, who undertakes in conducting his business or profession to converse freely and constantly save by the pencil and pad or by the deaf mute sign language and alphabet. The deaf mute alphabet is the one great achievement that has been made for deaf mutes.

"Take even Helen Keller, who is, in my opinion, the most remarkable human being that has ever existed and her private instructor comes next. Helen Keller was not taught to speak by the oral system; she is blind; she is disqualified to receive instruction through any medium save the sense of touch and it is admitted by scientists generally that touch is the mother of all the senses—the only indispensable avenue to the soul."

O'Kelley agreed that blindness, more than deafness, was conducive to benevolence, good nature and cheerfulness and that to the real genius both blindness and deafness were perhaps far more an inspiration and an incentive than a handicap; that they at least leave genius untrammeled and really inspire in most people goodness and righteousness. He observed that the resignation with which most deaf and blind people accept their affliction is beautifully pathetic.

NEVER PRODUCE CRIMINAL CLASS

"I have heard of very few blind or deaf criminals," said Mr. O'Kelley. "All these were guilty of misdemeanors; perhaps there were minor felonies—no capital felonies. I do not think that this is due in any appreciable degree to the fact that blindness and deafness impede the commission of crime: I think that those affiictions develop the higher nature in one so affiicted.

"I have never heard of a deaf person or a blind person committing suicide, and insanity is rare among the deaf and blind.

"You wish to know the mental status of a deaf mute when he realizes that he will always be unlike other people—that mankind in general possesses a faculty that he can never acquire. Although I am practically a deaf mute I have had, so to speak, just a taste of speech and I can but vaguely imagine the mental status of one who is born a deaf mute. I cannot say whether the desire to possess a faculty that one has never had and cannot of course comprehend is more intense than the desire to regain a faculty which one has had but has lost. Naturally one who was born a deaf mute has an unsatisfied curiosity coupled wtih an intense longing; one who was not born a deaf mute and deprived of his hearing has regret and longing. It is hard to tell which is worse."

The following was prepared in compliance with a request for a summary of O'Kelley's life and experiences:

I fervently thank God that, coming "out of the night that covered me," I realized that I was "unconquerable"; that I was "the master of my fate—the captain of my soul."

I have never had to any extent a judicial career nor am I interested, more than any fairly intelligent man should be, in politics. My natural inclination is toward socialism, but I am distinctly independent in politics. To me Alexander Hamilton is America's greatest historical character.

EMPLOYED BY CHICAGO DEFENDER

I took a special course in English in Shaw university before I was licensed to practice law and I was back in Shaw in 1909 for a B. L. course. I was in Yale from 1910 to 19212 and taught school one year (1918-1919). I have engaged some in journalism; for nearly three years I have been connected with The Chicago Defender, the greatest weekly paper, and I am on the editorial staff of the Carolina Times which is published in Durham.

In December, 1909, with the sole purpose of earning enough money to enter Yale, I went to work for the T. A. Gillespie company which was constructing the Catskill aqueduct, a tunnel 119 miles long, designed to carry water from Catskill mountains to New York city. The tunnel was being driven under moutnains, cities and rivers and was from 500 to 2,000 feet underground. The thousands of men emp'oyed in this work had been gathered from the four corners of the earth. We lived in shanties, had bunks filled with straw covered by blankets and did our own cooking.

After leaving Yale in 1912 I followed a great many of the men who went with McKenzie Mann company to Montreal on the Mount Royal tunnel job and I worked 500 feet under Montreal. There were times during this work when the terrific b'asting broke the water mains and the tunnel was flooded. We frequently worked all night on the streets repairing the damage. I survived all this exposure in dead winter in Canada, but had double pneumonia the following May. Yes, I have been an "underworld child of calamity," as you suggest. And yet if I were not a lawyer I had rather work on those great public jobs as a common laborer than anything else. It's a happy, care free life. The friendships I made during the hardships and thrilling experiences while with the Gillespie company and the McKenzie-Mann company have been enduring. When I meet one who shared those hardships with me I experience what must be the same feeling of a veteran when he meets a former comrade in arms.

My experiences at Yale were nothing out of the ordinary. When I arrived at New Haven in the fall of 1910 I had exactly $88 to meet board, lodging, tuition and book charges. Tuition alone was $150 a year and $50 of $88 was paid for the first quarter tuition charge and $5 went for deposit fee.

I have never seen a (white) black face minstrel show and, aside from attending performances by Ruth St. Denis and Anna Pavlowa, I have never witnessed a white theatrical performance; but I never miss an opportunity to enjoy one of our own great artists like Roland Hayes or Marian Anderson. I have explained to you that I can feel and appreciate music. The singing of Roland Hayes makes me feel spiritual, the vibrations of the music make my body taut or make it tremble. The stage presence of Marian Anderson thrills and charms me. I enjoy every Race musical and dramatic performance.

Ohio.

Lawyers - 1926

Jane Hunter

Among the 151 successful candidates to pass the Ohio State bar examination last week was Miss Jane Hunter. Readers of the AFRO-AMERICAN may not have heard of Miss Hunter before, but at the rate of speed she has been travelling, the past ten years, she is destined to become a national figure.

Two score years ago, Miss Hunter, an orphan in Abbeville, S. C., was working at odd jobs to complete her high school education. She qualified as trained nurse and founded the Phyllis Wheatley Association of Cleveland, an institution similar to the Y. W. C. A. Some 80 girls live with her and her employment bureau handles 600 girls and women each month.

Last year Cleveland subscribed $687,000 for Phyllis Wheatley, and Miss Hunter helped direct the campaign. Even then she was studying law nights at the Cleveland Law School.

Social butterflies, with pampering parents, and wives of smug well-to-do business or professional men may learn a lesson from the life of Miss Jane Hunter.

Like Miss Nannie Burroughs, of Washington; Miss Mary McLeod Bethune, of Daytona, Florida; Mrs. Aaron Malone, and the late Madame C. J. Walker, Miss Hunter has, without aid and without a great deal of early encouragement, carried out a career of usefulness and service that stamps her among the great women of the Nation.

WILLIAM KORRIN Attorney, resides in Cleveland, age [illegible]; high school and legal training [illegible] state legislature 1910 and 1912; and senate 1920; good personal and professional reputation [illegible] legislative, make an [illegible]

THE MOSSEY SETTLEMENT

Hearty congratulations are due Attorney Alexander H. Martin and associates for pushing the settlement in the Albert Massey case to a successful conclusion.

Lawyers - 1926

Oklahoma

Ruffin Boulding To Share In $25,000 Attorneys' Fee

Norfolk Journal and Guide

Wewoke, Okla.—The case of Davis Thomas, guardian of Peter Johnson, a 56-year old imbecile, against John W. Wilmott, wealthy attorney of San Diego, Cal., and the Taxas Oil Company, and two other oil corporations, for cancelling title to an alleged illegal guardian, came to a sudden ending in the District Court of Seminole County, Oklahoma, on November 30th, by accepting a compromise of $30,000.00 before trial.

The successful attorneys in the case were B. C. Franklin, Ruffin P. Boulding, and William Neff. Atty. Boulding, whose home is in this city, has been in the Oklahoma law practice less than a year. He is a native of Norfolk.

The attorneys' fee in this case is reputed to be $25,000.

Lawyers - 1926

Pennsylvania.

Oxford, N. C. Public Ledger

MAR 26 1926

COLORED OXFORD LAWYER WINS NOTED CASE

Henry P. Cheatham, Son Of Dr. Cheatham, Superintendent Of Colored Oxford Asylum.

The Philadelphia Tribune states that Judge Thomas F. Finletter last week appointed Henry P. Cheatham, a colored lawyer to represent Roy Waldrop, a white man charged with murder. After three hours of cross-examination and presentation of testimony, says the Tribune, Waldrop was acquitted. The jury in rendering a verdict did not leave the jury box.

Lawyer Cheatham is the son of H. P. Cheatham, superintendent of Oxford Colored Orphanage. He went overseas with the 15th New York regiment.

ALEXANDER TAKES NEW OFFICES

Courier 10-9-26

Philadelphia Lawyer Leases Second Floor of Building — Has 18,000 Square Feet Floor Space.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 7.—Several weeks ago the Philadelphia newspapers carried an interesting news item on the leasing of the entire second floor of the building at the N. W. corner of Nineteenth and Chestnut streets for a long term of years to Raymond Pace Alexander to be occupied as his law offices. We are pleased to hear that Mr. Alexander has removed his offices from the Commonwealth Trust Building to the entire second floor at Nineteenth and Chestnut streets.

The floor space comprises 1,800 sq. feet, there being five large room offices, all of which are outside rooms, affording abundance of daylight from twenty windows, along Chestnut street and Nineteenth street. It is diagonally opposite the New Aldine Theatre.

Mr. Alexander has been located at the Commonwealth Trust Building since his removal from the old Brown and Stevens Bank Building where he began in a most humble beginning three years ago this month, occupying two small rooms on the third floor of the old Bank Building at Broad and Lombard streets. In September, 1923, he leased from Mr. Brown what was formerly a two room apartment and transformed this little place into a modest office. Here with one young lady assistant, he worked from early morn till 10:00 p. m. building up his practise of law. His task was a hard one because our people had not had too good a reputation for calling on and using their own attorneys. He succeeded, however, in winning the confidence of the public by his application to his cases and by untiring effort in behalf of every client and every case. His success in the courts brought him appointments from the Judges. Considerable public attention surrounded the trial of several of the leading cases of the colored people tried in our courts during the last few years which were tried by Mr. Alexander. Notable among these cases were the acquittal of Louise Thomas, who had been previously convicted of murder of Harry Saunders, a policeman, in the first degree and was sentenced to death by electrocution. Mr. Alexander took up the case after the conviction of this young colored girl and by argument to the Supreme Court gained a new trial for her. At the second trial the girl was acquitted on the charge of murdering the policeman, after a legal battle of over a year and a half.

Several other notable cases against the leading theatre companies arising out of discriminations against the colored people were prosecuted with success as well as large damage suits against the Pennsylvania Railroad, Philadelphia and Reading Railroad and the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company.

Mr. John Francis Williams will also be associated with Mr. Alexander in the general practice of law. Mr. Williams has handled many appeals to the Superior and Supreme Court during the last year with Mr. Alexander and gained considerable prominence in obtaining a retrial of the case of Smith versus Reading Railway Company after a leading white lawyer here had lost the case in the lower courts. Mr. Alexander and Mr. Williams have been associated in the practice of law since September, 1925. Mr. Williams was formerly a member of the Legal Department of the N. Y. N. H. and H. R. R. Co., with offices in New Haven, Conn. He is a Yale College graduate, Class of 1917 and Yale Law graduate, Class 1922, and was for two years a member of the Board of Editors of the Yale Law Journal.

Mr. Alexander is a University of Pennsylvania graduate, with honors, Class 1920, and Harvard Law School graduate, Class 1923. He had his first law experience in the office of John R. K. Scott of Philadelphia.

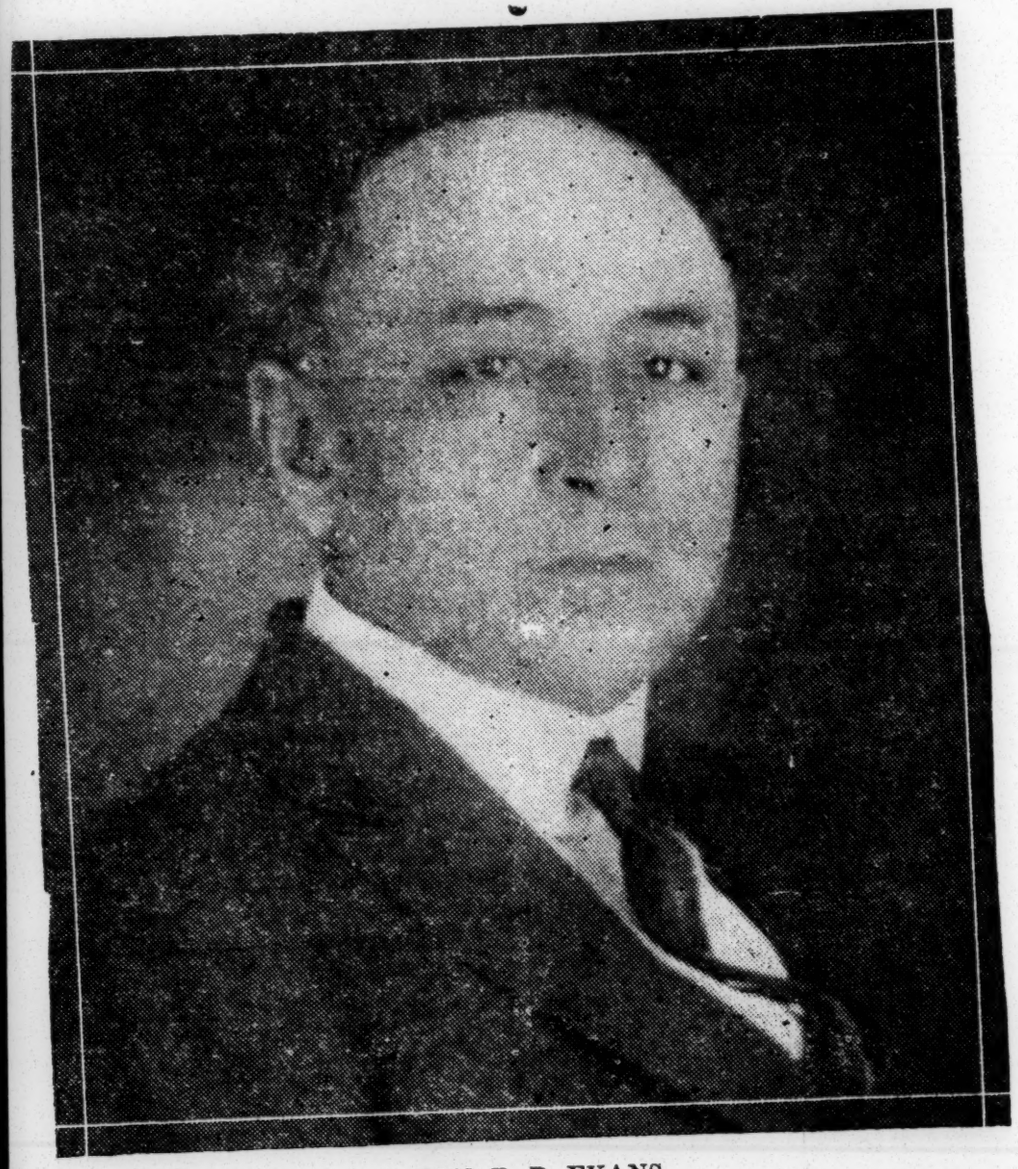
The Real Estate Department of this office, which has grown considerably during the last two years, will continue to be managed by Mr. Lewis Tanner Moore. This branch of the office has negotiated many of the largest realty transactions, both conveyances and mortgages, among the colored people of Philadelphia during the last two years. It directly represents several finance companies and does a large business for many leading white Real Estate firms whose clients number many of our people. This office during the year ending September 1925-1926 represented clients for conveyances or re-financing at over 200 settlements. Mr. Moore is a Bates College graduate and studied law at Harvard University. He is now completing his course at Temple University Law School.

From an office with one assistant, it has grown steadily until today there are three men and three very competent young ladies who do the important secretarial and stenographic work. These ladies are Mrs. Bessie V. Rooks, graduate of the W. Philadelphia High school, formerly stenographer for the U. S. Government in the Quartermaster Corps, and formerly secretary to the President, Virginia Theological Seminary and College, Lynchburg, Va.; Miss Alvahteen Stewart, graduate of the Hartford H. S., Hartford, Conn., and the Commercial Teachers Tr. Course, Temple University, and Miss Grace L. Ashe graduate of Germantown H. S. and Temple University.

Lawyers - 1926

Texas.

A Leading Barrister



HON. R. D. EVANS.

Texas has but few Negro lawyers. The state is a wide field with rare opportunities for Negro lawyers who have made the proper preparation along this line and who are willing to face the hardships accompanying Negro lawyers in the South. Above we present one of the race's leading attorneys. Mr. Evans has for years practiced law in Waco, Texas,, his home city, and other Texas towns. He has endeared himself to both white and colored in the state to the extent that he experiences no trouble in practicing in all the counts of the country and his success should be an inspiration and an inducement for other Nogro lawyers to do business in Texas.

Virginia.

Lawyers - 1926

Virginia Admits First Woman Attorney to Bar

Newport News, Va., March 26.—L. Marian Roe, first woman lawyer in Virginia, whose bar was admitted to the Newport News bar last Tuesday by Judge J. H. Barham. She passed the state bar examination last December and has located her office in this city.

She was born in Newport News and has made her home here all her life. She is a graduate of Howard university and one of the few women lawyers in the United States.